

Preliminary Amendment
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/875,184
Attorney Docket No. 010493

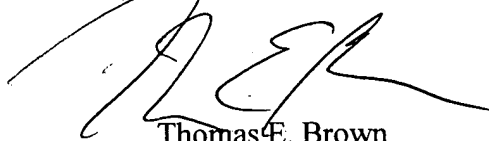
REMARKS

Claim 1-4 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended by replacing the term "sidewall of the vessel" with the term "the surface of the inner wall of the vessel" in order to place the application in better condition for examination.

In the event that any fees are due in connection with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP



Thomas E. Brown
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 44,450

TEB/jnj
1250 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 822-1100 (t)
(202) 822-1111 (f)